



Independent Electoral Commission  
[www.elections.org.za/](http://www.elections.org.za/)

# How do I register?

To vote in elections, you must register as a voter. You only have to register once, unless you move or your voting district changes.

## Who can register?

You must:

- be a South African citizen;
- be at least 16 years old; and
- have a green, bar-coded ID book.

## When can I register?

You can apply for registration at any time however, to be able to vote in a specific election, you must be registered before the election date is proclaimed (published in the Government Gazette) by the President. The Voters' Roll for a specific election closes at 5pm on the day of proclamation. Contact your [Municipal Electoral Office](#) for details.

## Where can I register?

Apply for registration during announced registration weekends at your voting station (in the voting district where you live) - use our online [Voting Station Finder](#) to get a map of your voting station.

You can also apply for registration at your local [Municipal Electoral Office](#) during office hours, but please phone first to arrange a time. **Important:** You **can't** register at our national or provincial offices, **only** the municipal offices.

## What must I bring?

You need to apply in person. Bring your:

- South African, green, bar-coded ID book  
OR
- Valid Temporary Identity Certificate (TIC) if you don't have an ID book

## What happens when I apply?

1. Go to the voting station or Municipal Electoral Office
2. Fill in an "Application for Registration as a Voter" form
3. Your ID book is scanned
4. A bar-coded sticker is pasted in your ID book

Please note that completing the form and receiving a bar-coded sticker **doesn't mean that you're registered** - it only means that you've **applied** for registration - your application must still be processed (may take up to 7 working days). Please see "how do I know if or where I'm registered" below to find out how to check if your application was successful.

## When do I have to re-register?

You only have to re-register when:

- Your home address changes
- We inform you that your voting district has changed

Please see [Moved since you registered?](#) to find out how to check if your voting district has changed.

## How do I know if or where I'm registered?

You can check your registration details by:

- sending an SMS with your ID number to **32810** or
- using our [voter registration details](#) web page.

If your application for registration was successful, you'll get your registration info (including your voting station details).

**Note:** It can take up to **7 working days** for your registration application to be processed.

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**Course: Induction**

**24083, Independent Electoral Commission: How to register as a voter**

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